

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure
Vice President: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.

Subscription Rates
By Mail in P.E.I.: \$4.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months.
City Delivery \$5.00 per year; \$3.00 for 6 months.

The Charlottetown Guardian can be obtained at
Hollings' News Agency, Times Square, New York;
Old South News Agency, Corner Milk and Washington

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Link."

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1942

An Airman's Faith

Mr. Marshall W. A. Bishop, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., who won undying fame by his daring exploits in the First Great War, recently addressed the Air Cadets at Hamilton, Ont. He took occasion to emphasize what he regarded as the one great essential for the task facing youth today and in the years ahead. That was to have faith. His words are well worth quoting.

The Manpower Scandal

The scandal at Ottawa over national selective service has been exposed by Mr. Elliott Little in his letter of resignation as director of this vitally important phase of our war effort. Mr. Little is one of Canada's outstanding business executives, and it was only out of a sense of duty that he took over his job eight months ago. At that time he informed the Minister of Labour that he must have "complete cooperation" from the King Government, "regardless of political considerations."

The King Government ushered in its selective service policy with a great fanfare of trumpets in Parliament and in the press. This was apparently all a piece of window dressing. Behind the scenes the old Party Game was going on, for higher stakes than ever and with the joker running wild.

The situation has been aptly put in a cartoon appearing recently in the Globe and Mail. It shows Mr. King mounted on a charger named "Selective Service," galloping furiously down the homestretch of a race track. His face is turned expectantly to the judge's stand, and with reins in one hand and whip in the other he is apparently making tremendous efforts to speed the horse's progress.

"Such Are Our Enemies"

There is fear in certain quarters that Germany and Soviet Russia, weary of the struggle, might seek some abatement of the slaughter in the form of a peace. Those tempted to agree should read the latest number of "Information Bulletin" issued by the U.S.S.R. Embassy at Washington, D.C. It is a recapitulation of some of the worst German atrocities in Russia. Its tone and atmosphere is one of hatred of those who perpetrated such cruelties. It is a story of torture, destruction and brutality unequalled in any recorded history of man. For instance: Kiev, a city of about 1,000,000 persons, now numbers only 330,000. The remainder have been killed or exported to work in Germany. Similar conditions exist in Odessa and Khar-

kov. In the village of Matuzovka in the Ukraine German authorities demanded 75,000 pounds of grain and 3,600 pounds of meat. Farmers could not supply this. The German authorities gathered pregnant women in the village and herded them into a cellar. Hand grenades were hurled into the cellar killing them all. In the Village of Sloboda, drunken German soldiers stabbed five peasant families to death. One old man in the Village of Nikolskoye was shot and killed because he failed to doff his cap to a German officer. In the Khvastovsk district five villages were burned to the ground and 150 persons shot. Many were hanged on an improvised gallows and their bodies left hanging. And so it goes, village to village, farm to farm, home to home, murder, rape, and destruction.

Having summed up a few of these crimes the Information Bulletin concludes: "Such are our enemies. They have come to plunder Soviet property. The hatred of the Soviet people for the Hitlerites has reached boiling point. The people wait with clenched fists for the day when they will be freed from German violence, plunder, lawlessness and death. That day will come." This is not the voice of appeasement or of peace feelers.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Are't we thankful for this long continuance of Fall weather? Cynics among commercial travellers used to declare we enjoyed nine months winter here, and three months early spring. Now we can more truthfully boast of nine months summer, and, we hope, three months late Fall.

"Long before radiolocation was announced to the general public," says the London Star, "we had our girls working at it. But no one talked. One airwoman-cook, obviously much intrigued by the excitement of this new part of our defence, applied to go and cook for the Waafs working on radiolocation. Upon which the officer said, 'But you have been cooking for them for more than a year.' What about that for keeping a secret?"

Mr. Earl Browder, former general secretary of the Communist party in the United States, and Mr. Patrick Toohy, secretary of the Michigan Communist party, were turned back by immigration officials at Windsor, Ont., when they sought to visit there for a meeting with Tim Buck. Authorities explained to the visitors that the Communist party was still illegal in Canada and therefore they should obtain a special permit from Ottawa if they wished to cross the border. As a result the visitors returned to the United States and telephoned Buck that they were unable to keep the appointment.

Moderate to substantial increases were reported for all of the principal classes of live stock on Canadian farms in the survey made at June 1, 1942. Numbers of cattle increased by 5.1 per cent over the 1941 figure; sheep numbers increased by 11.6 per cent; horses by one per cent and in the case of hogs the increase was 17 per cent. A sharp increase of 15.7 per cent in the number of hens and chickens on farms when compared with 1941 brought the total number to 68.1 million. This is the highest total ever recorded and will be reflected in greater egg production and supplies of poultry during 1942-43. Numbers of turkeys on farms show a very substantial increase of 31.5 per cent over the number on hand at June 1, 1941.

Farm labor will be stabilized so far as possible, but if men are needed for the armed services or production of munitions, that will be the first consideration, Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Federal Minister of Agriculture, told the Ontario Hog Producers' Association in Toronto. Calling for an increase in hog production for Britain, Mr. Gardiner said Ontario's share would be 25 per cent increase over last year. This, he said, should be readily reached because of increased supplies of feed grains. "We aimed last year to produce 7,000,000 hogs for market in Canada, and we dropped below that figure by 400,000. There were only three provinces in which there was a decrease in the first nine months of this year as compared with last year," he said.

Count Leo Nickolevich Tolstoy, Russian novelist and social reformer, died this date, 1910; while serving in the Crimean War he wrote "Childhood, Boyhood and Youth," "The Cosacks," and "Sebastopol"; after the war (1856) he settled in Petrograd where he mixed with many distinguished men, leading a life of luxury; later, began to interest himself in the peasants, and ultimately in 1893, settled among them; his attitude towards the National Greek Church was that of a socialist iconoclast, his writings leading to his ex-communication in 1901; his two great novels are "War and Peace" and "Anna Karenina"; he was altruistic and beneficent, but pessimistic and lacked philosophical sanity: "Regard the society of women as a necessary unpleasantness of social life, and avoid it as much as possible."

Returning to the original intention, in an unusual proclamation, President Roosevelt has called upon the American people to observe both Thanksgiving and New Year's as days of prayer. Devoid of the "whereases" of customary Presidential proclamations, this one started with a quotation from the 92nd Psalm: "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord." After reciting the 23rd Psalm, Mr. Roosevelt said in his proclamation: "Inspired with faith and courage by these words, let us turn again to the work that confronts us in this time of national emergency; in the armed services and the merchant marine; in factories and offices; on farms and in the mines; on highways, railways and airways; in other places of public service to the nation; and in our homes." The proclamation of two national days of prayer followed numerous requests from religious organizations and church leaders throughout the United States asking that this step be taken. The last day of prayer proclaimed by Mr. Roosevelt was last New Year's Day.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Widespread criticism has been voiced over a periodical issued by the New Brunswick Department of Education in which appears this queer statement: "The people's war is not being fought against the German people—it is fought against the German people—may be found." The reference stands in need of immediate correction. Except for the support of the German people among others, Fascism Nazism or any other creation of that kind would be impossible. One of the greatest mistakes made by certain war-spiriting people in this war has been to confuse the issues by imagining that once we can dispose of Hitler, Mussolini, and all will be well. The matter goes deeper than that—much deeper. This is a people's war and we fight against the axis people, not merely their leaders.—Brantford Expositor.

To use families as hostages has always been an implicit part of Nazi rule, even in Germany itself. German youth in one of the Ordeens-burgers for training the Nazi leaders knew that to break his vow of absolute obedience meant the destruction of his family as well as of himself. But something may even be gained by the open and barefaced proclamation all over Europe of the depths of cynicism which Nazism has now reached. Nazi propagandists are busy presenting the aggressions mainly as a sacrifice in defence of European civilization. The most elementary principle of justice as it has been understood in Europe for thousands of years is that no man should be punished for the deed of another. Nazi propaganda is most effectively exposed by the fact that to exploit the ties of kinship and affection for the sake of administrative convenience is the most open confession on the part of a regime that it could be made by any regime.—London Times

Just to illustrate again the folly of believing "prophecies" there is the case of the Toronto prognosticator who, in June, wrote "1942 must be the year when this war ends before the berries ripen in the grapes" in Palestine.—Brantford Expositor.

Mayor Morrison has announced his intention of running for his eighth term as Hamilton's chief magistrate. It is an announcement, we believe that will be received with general satisfaction.—Hamilton Spectator.

A Manitoba Indian named Rattlesnake has joined the Canadian army. Here's hoping he gets his hands into Hitler.—Lethbridge Herald.

Hon. Oliver Lyttelton has coined a new slogan for the workers of Britain—"N. N. N." "Today not Tomorrow," is Mr. Lyttelton's motto. He reminds British workers both in war and civilian industries that they "cannot be let off" doing their daily tasks with all the speed and efficiency they can command.—Winnipeg Free Press.

Wendell Willkie's report on his trip around the world may have a tonic effect on peoples and governments. The chief impression derived by the chief impression derived by the trip should take another trip and learn a bit more about some of the subjects which he discusses.—Moncton Transcript.

The Government at Ottawa is too much into patting itself on the back and saying "I did it" when it is doing a job we are doing. "Maybe it thinks it is doing a whale of a job and maybe in some respects it is doing it, but it has not yet succeeded in convincing the people of this country that we are fighting a war, even if the battle-ground is two or three thousand miles from here.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

A wealthy resident of California has refused to marry him. That's gratitude for you.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

"Dunking" is never permissible in public buildings to rules of etiquette.—Exc. Mag.

Few people were waste on Pierre Laval in the sympathy which he extended to the people who betrayed. But his present plight accents the perils of puppets and disallows how the plights of the main in the French love of the main. A man of principle may make mistakes, as Marshal Petain has and integrity but to suggest that when even the pretense of power is torn from his grasp? M. Laval stands on that brink. Forced by Hitler to try to beguile his countrymen into slavery in German factories. He failed. Descending to hundreds of thousands of Hitler's got thousands. And now Laval is on the verge of being replaced by a tougher puppet, Jacques Doriot. In that predicament he has made a final plea which reaches the depths of humiliation, conveying the German "order" to release an extra quota of prisoners to be allowed to come to Germany and be near them—it they will work. This plight of the puppet reflects in some measure the plight of the master. Hitler's manpower situation is becoming desperate. The pressures being exerted on France, Norway and Denmark are only one of the signs. And it's tortuous two-year effort to work through puppets shows his recognition of the fact that outright unvelled Nazi coercion must turn those countries against his "new order." But one device after another has failed. The Nazis must get food materials and labor from Europe at whatever risk. Starvation and slavery are poor persuaders. Even without the demands of the German rule, it could be unwelcome. With them, it daily becomes more intolerable. Politically Hitler has failed. Each downward step in puppetry makes the failure clearer.—Christian Science Monitor.

The Nazis don't hold women in particularly high esteem. They are considered definitely inferior to men. Men, after all, are the warriors and revered above all else by the Nazis. So men who are considered inferior to the Russian front, in his will urges his wife, who is still young and healthy, "to marry at once in order to bear sons for the Fatherland." And then the Nazi soldier provides that, if the child even then expected by his wife should not be a son then his worldly goods should be given to the National Socialist Institute at Kosslin. That a civilization on these German throwbacks are trying to impress on the world.—Milwaukee Journal.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian reserves the right to edit and to condense the opinions of correspondents.

ROOMS FOR AIRFORCE FAMILIES

Sir.—Last Saturday, in an advertisement in the Guardian and Patriot, we appealed to the householders of Charlottetown to open up their homes to the members of the local Airforce whose wives and families were arriving in the City. This matter of housing accommodation for married couples is one regarding which the Dominion authorities have taken no definite stand and the situation has now reached a point when the citizens of Charlottetown are, in the very nature of things, expected to solve the problem.

So long as there were furnished houses and apartments to let in Charlottetown, we were able to supply the demand. When they had all been taken up we arranged with householders to let rooms and suites of rooms to Airforce families. These suites usually consist of bedroom, living room, and, if possible, a third room in which to receive guests. The desired landlord and tenant naturally vary, on account of which fact the number of rooms being offered must exceed considerably the number actually required, for which reason we have, of late, run short.

On account of this latter fact we were asked to make a special effort to supply the required accommodation, hence the appeal that we made in our last Saturday's advertisement in the Guardian and Patriot in which we offered the use of our office as a medium, free of charge. The response has been very satisfactory in most respects but we still require accommodation for families with children.

We realize fully that to receive into one's home a family hitherto unknown, is, to say the least, an inconvenience. On the other hand, as one reads the daily war news and learns of the dreadful conditions being experienced in the war areas, and when one couples with that knowledge the fact that it has been largely to the Airforces of the United Nations that we owe our deliverance from defeat in this war, one feels that any inconveniences that we suffer are but a slight token of the appreciation that we owe to the men of the Airforce for the splendid spirit that they are showing and for their willingness to risk their lives, not only while on duty at the front but also during their periods of absence. We confidently hope that many more families will offer their assistance. We shall be glad to discuss this matter in detail with anyone who will come to our office. We are, Sir, etc., H. K. S. HEMMING & CO.

The Poet's Corner

A GIRL'S SONG (1915)
The Meuse and Marne have little waves;
The slaughter-ploppers o'er them lean.
One day they will forget the graves
That give the grass its living green.
Some brown French girl the rose will wear
That curls above his comely head;
Will twine it in her russet hair.
Nor wonder why it is so red.
His blood is in the rose's veins,
His hair is in the yellow corn;
My grief is in the weeping willow;
And in the keening wind forlorn.

Flow softly, softly, Marne and Meuse;
Tread lightly, all ye browsing sheep;
Fall tenderly, O silver dew,
For here my dear Love lies asleep.
The earth is on his seal-eyed eyes,
The beauty marred that was my pride;
Would I were lying where he lies,
And sleeping sweetly by his side!
The Spring will come by Meuse and Marne,
The birds be blithesome in the tree,
They'll heap the stones to make his cairn,
Where many sleep as sound as he.
—Katherine Tynan.

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You will probably find the quantity, styles and patterns of Penmans famous Knit Wear somewhat limited, for purposes of wartime economy. However, deliveries of available supply will be maintained as fairly as possible through dealers to consumers.
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